



**MINUTES**  
**Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council**  
**Wednesday, November 12, 2025**  
**7:00 PM**

To view the Mayor & Council meeting via livestream, please access the YouTube link which is posted on the Northvale website, [www.northvalenj.org](http://www.northvalenj.org). Go to government tab, then to meeting livestreams.

Mayor McGuire called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers at 116 Paris Avenue, Northvale, New Jersey 07647.

**Mayor McGuire read the Open Public Meetings Act Notice into the record as follows:**

*“This is a Combined Meeting of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale. The date, time and location of this meeting have been advertised in the official Newspapers of the Borough, filed with the Municipal Clerk, and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All notice requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act for this meeting have been fulfilled. Please note the fire exits as required by law at public meetings.”*

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

Mayor McGuire asked everyone to stand and join him in a salute to the flag. He also asked everyone to remain standing for a moment of silence for Veterans who celebrated Veterans Day yesterday and for those that have served and will continue to serve and also our first responders.

**Mayor McGuire asked for roll call of the Council:**

Mayor McGuire	Present	Councilwoman McMorrow	Present
Councilman Bakalian	Present	Councilman Mattessich	Present
Councilwoman Fernandez	Present	Councilman Menafr	Present
		Councilman Sokoloski	Present

**Other Officials Present:**

Kenneth Ralph, Borough Attorney  
Scott Loverich, Borough Engineer  
Frances Weston, Municipal Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Combined Meeting of October 8, 2025. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Mattessich.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Abstain

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve the Minutes of the Special Meeting of October 28, 2025. Motion was moved by Councilman Menafr, seconded by Councilman Bakalian.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafr	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Abstain

**MONTHLY CORRESPONDENCE**

The following reports are on file in the Municipal Clerk’s office and can be viewed by the public between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Building Department  
Engineer – Neglia Group



Fire Prevention  
Grantswriter - Bruno Associates  
Recreation Minutes  
Tax Collector

## CORRESPONDENCE

1. Best Practices Inventory  
(Resolution #2025-142)
2. Neglia Group Proposal  
Watershed Inventory Report  
(Resolution #2025-144)
3. Interstate Waste Services  
Proposal for Yard Waste Collection  
(Resolution #2025-151)

## RESOLUTIONS – Consent Agenda –

*“All items are considered to be non-controversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There may be further discussion prior to the vote upon request of a member of the public or a Council member. Any item may be removed for further discussion or for a roll call vote in which case the item will be removed and considered in its normal sequence as part of the general order of business”.*

**Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to approve Consent Agenda Resolutions #2025-142 through 2025-154. Motion was moved by Councilman Bakalian, seconded by Council President McMorro.**

### RESOLUTION #2025-142

**TITLE: RESOLUTION TO APPROVE SUBMISSION OF THE BEST PRACTICES CHECKLIST INVENTORY TO THE DIRECTOR OF THE DIVISION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES ON BEHALF OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHVALE**

**WHEREAS**, Local Finance Notice 2025-13 mandates that the municipality shall submit by October 24, 2025 to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services a report describing the municipality’s compliance with the “Best Practices Inventory”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Community Affairs established the Best Practices Inventory on August 27, 2012; and

**WHEREAS**, the report is required to be signed by the Chief Financial Officer and the Municipal Clerk; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the governing body have reviewed the Best Practices Inventory questions and answers being submitted.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the Local Government Best Practices Checklist, as completed by the Chief Financial Officer is hereby approved for submission to the Director of Local Government Services.

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### RESOLUTION #2025-143

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MUNICIPAL CLERK TO ADVERTISE FOR REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE YEAR 2026**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale, a body corporate and politic and a political subdivision of the State of New Jersey, seeks qualifications and proposals from qualified professionals to provide essential services for the Borough’s operations and functions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:14B-1 et seq.; and



**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale seeks to employ a ‘Fair and Open Process’ as defined in N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, 20.5 et seq. for the purpose of soliciting qualified professionals to provide services as required by the Borough for the year 2026.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, this 12th day of November 2025, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized to take, or cause to be taken, all acts necessary to publish the Legal Notice required to solicit for professional qualifications for all professional positions required by the Borough in the usual course of business pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4, 20.5 et. seq in a newspaper of general circulation for the Borough of Northvale, and/or on the Borough of Northvale website, [www. northvalenj.org](http://www.northvalenj.org).

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**RESOLUTION #2025-144**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR NEGLIA GROUP – WATERSHED INVENTORY REPORT PHASE I**

**WHEREAS**, Neglia Group has prepared a scope of services for the Watershed Inventory Report Phase I as per their letter dated August 13, 2025 as follows:

Engineering Services	\$24,670.00
Reimbursable Expenses	\$ 200.00

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer certifies that the funds will be available not to exceed \$24,870.00.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Mayor and Council hereby approve the Proposal for Engineering Services and Reimbursable Expenses for Neglia Group.

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**RESOLUTION #2025-145**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #274 FOR NORTHVALE PTO – 50/50 OFF PREMISE RAFFLE – DECEMBER 20, 2025**

NAME:	Northvale PTO
ADDRESS:	441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ
LOCATION OF RAFFLE:	441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ
HOURS:	2:00-3:00 PM
DATE OF RAFFLE:	December 19, 2025
ID #:	353-5-37377
RAFFLE LICENSE #:	RL #274

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**RESOLUTION #2025-146**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #275 FOR NORTHVALE PTO – 50/50 RAFFLE – NOVEMBER 21, 2025**

NAME:	Northvale PTO
ADDRESS:	441 Tappan Road, Northvale, NJ



LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 190 Paris Avenue, Northvale, NJ  
HOURS: 7:00-10:00 PM  
DATE OF RAFFLE: November 21, 2025  
ID #: 353-5-37377  
RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #275

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**RESOLUTION #147**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING RAFFLE LICENSE #277 FOR ST. ANTHONY’S CHURCH – 50/50 ON PREMISE RAFFLE – DECEMBER 6, 2025**

NAME: St. Anthony’s Church  
ADDRESS: 199 Walnut Street, Northvale, NJ  
LOCATION OF RAFFLE: 199 Walnut Street, Northvale, NJ  
HOURS: 7:00-11:00 PM  
DATE OF RAFFLE: December 6, 2025  
ID #: 353-1-146  
RAFFLE LICENSE #: RL #277

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**RESOLUTION #148**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPOINTING MARK SALERNO TEMPORARY PLUMBING INSPECTOR**

**WHEREAS**, Plumbing Inspector Stephen Wiersma has notified the Mayor and Council of the need to take a medical leave of absence effective November 4, 2025 and extending for an undetermined period; and

**WHEREAS**, maintaining continuity of essential inspection services is necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the Borough of Northvale; and

**WHEREAS**, Rich Hess, the Borough’s Building Inspector has recommended Mark Salerno to serve as temporary Plumbing Inspector; and

**WHEREAS**, the temporary appointment of Mark Salerno is deemed to be in the best interest of the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale to ensure all duties and responsibilities are carried out without interruption.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale that Mark Salerno is appointed as temporary Plumbing Inspector effective November 5, 2025 and shall continue until Mr. Wiersma is medically cleared to return to work.

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**RESOLUTION #2025-149**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AWARDING BID FOR TRAFFIC STRIPING ON ROADWAYS**

**WHEREAS**, NJSA 40A:11-10(1) authorizes contracting units to enter into cooperative pricing agreements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has volunteered to act as “Lead Agency” for the purchase of work, materials, and supplies for the Riverside Cooperative (“the Coop”); and

**WHEREAS**, request for bids was made for Traffic Striping on Roadways for a term beginning January 1, 2026 and ending on December 31, 2027, with an option by the Coop to extend the term for an additional year; and

**WHEREAS**, the specification for the bid indicates that there will be one award that will be made based on the lowest aggregate total for Category A of the bid; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale received two (2) bids for this purpose as follows:

1. Dan Swayze & Son, Inc., 2351 Waldheim Avenue, Scott Plains, NJ, with a total Category A aggregate of \$26.62
2. Straight Edge Striping LLC, 201 Wilton Avenue, Middlesex, NJ, with a total Category A aggregate of \$23.68; and

**WHEREAS**, Straight Edge Striping LLC is the lowest qualified bidder as determined by the lead agency, and

**WHEREAS**, the two bids are on file in the office of the Municipal Clerk

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Northvale Mayor and Municipal Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute a Master Contract as Lead Agency on behalf of the Riverside Cooperative with Straight Edge Striping LLC for a two year term beginning January 1, 2026 and ending on December, 2027, with an additional option by the Cooperative to extend the contract for an additional year.

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**RESOLUTION #2025-150**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION APPROVING THE 2024 AUDIT**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts, and financial transactions; and

**WHEREAS**, the Annual Report of Audit for the year 2024 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk as per the requirements of N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall by resolution certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit containing the auditor’s findings, comments, and recommendations; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the governing body have personally reviewed as a minimum the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit containing the



auditor’s findings, comments, and recommendations, as evidenced by the group affidavit form of the governing body; and

**WHEREAS**, such resolution of certification shall be adopted by the governing body no later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and; and

**WHEREAS**, all members of the governing body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

**WHEREAS**, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of N.J.S.A. 52:27BB-52 - to wit:

N.J.S.A. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this Article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, in addition shall forfeit his office.”

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the governing body of the Borough of Northvale hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this resolution and the required affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2025-151**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT WITH INTERSTATE WASTE SERVICES FOR THE COLLECTION OF VEGETATIVE WASTE**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northvale has a need to dispose of vegetative waste that is collected in the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, Interstate Waste Services (“Interstate”) has the ability to provide the necessary service to the Borough; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough wishes to engage the service with Interstate, pursuant to the terms of the contract, which the Borough deems fair and reasonable.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Borough hereby authorizes the execution of the Agreement with Interstate.

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#### **RESOLUTION #2025-152**

**TITLE: RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING OFFER TO RESOLVE CLAIM FOR 2024 SERVICES AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT BY PARIS SQUARE HOMEOWNERS’ ASSOCIATION**

**WHEREAS**, on September 6, 2006, the Northvale Planning Board/Zoning Board (the “Board”) adopted Resolution 06-13, granting approval to Rio Vista Homes at Northvale, LLC (“Rio Vista” or “Developer”) to construct an 88-unit multi-family development called Rio Vista on the subject lots. Since 2006, nine (9) resolutions involving the Subject Property have been adopted, all of which are incorporated herein by reference; and





**WHEREAS**, dominion and control of the said housing development was transferred from the Developer, to a private homeowners association, known and referred to as the Paris Square Homeowners' Association, Inc., (hereinafter 'Paris Square' or 'Association') or a similar name; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough previously resolved, on September 28, 2022, to reimburse the Association pursuant to the New Jersey Municipal Services Act, N.J.S.A. 40:67-23.3, et seq.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough and the Association executed a settlement agreement on or about November 10, 2022 authorizing payment for services from 2014 through 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the Association has requested reimbursement for the identical services for calendar 2024, and the Borough now seeks to authorize payment based upon similar cost structure, adjusted for the number of households receiving such services in 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon available information, the Borough's per household cost for snow removal in the relevant time period is approximately:

2024-	\$54.09	X 111 eligible =	\$6,003.99
Snow removal total			\$6,003.99; and

**WHEREAS**, based upon available information, the Borough's per household cost for street lighting in the relevant time period is approximately:

2024-	Actual metering by Rockland Electric =	\$546.53
Street lighting total		\$546.53; and

**WHEREAS**, all other services have been previously reimbursed through a separate resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough now seeks to resolve the claims by the Association for 2024 for street lighting and snow removal, and to uphold and fulfill its responsibilities and obligations to all residents by providing essential services required by statute and case law, and other good cause appearing.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey that the Borough Attorney is authorized to offer a settlement of all claims for snow removal, for reimbursement advanced by Paris Square for calendar 2024, in an amount not to exceed Six Thousand Five Hundred Fifty and 52/100 (\$6,550.52) Dollars, consistent with the settlement agreement; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Chief Financial Officer and/or his designee, and Borough Clerk be and are hereby authorized to effectuate such payment from the general fund payable from such account or accounts as the CFO may deem appropriate, subject to certification of available funds by the Chief Financial Officer, and execution of such other voucher or purchase order as may be necessary, in the usual course of business; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that a certified copy of this resolution shall be sent immediately upon the entry hereof to the CFO, managing agent or counsel for the Association and all departments, vendors and agencies necessary to provide the required services.

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### **RESOLUTION #2025-153**

**TITLE:      TRANSFER OF APPROPRIATIONS FROM THE CURRENT FUND  
BUDGET FOR 2025 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,000**

**WHEREAS**, N.J.S.A.40:4-49 permits the transfer of appropriations during the last two months of the fiscal year from accounts showing unexpended balances to accounts in which commitments may exceed the original budgeted appropriations.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following transfers are hereby authorized in the total amount of \$14,000.



DEPARTMENT	GROUP	ACCOUNT	FROM	TO
Sewer System Norwood	OE	05-01-26-315-201	8,000.00	
Celebration of Public Events	OE	05-01-30-420-201	2,000.00	
PERS Pension	OE	05-01-36-471-201	4,000.00	
Natural Gas	OE	05-01-31-446-201		1,500.00
Construction Code Office Operations	OE	05-01-22-195-201		12,000.00
Code Compliance Office Operations	OE	05-01-22-196-201		500.00
			<u>14,000.00</u>	<u>14,000.00</u>

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**RESOLUTION #2025-154**

**TITLE:      PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**WHEREAS**, claims have been submitted to the Borough of Northvale in the following amounts under various funds of the borough:

Current Fund Appropriations (2024)	
Current Fund Appropriations (2025)	\$460,888.24
General Capital Fund	5,015.00
Grant Fund	8,500.00
Animal Trust	8.40
Police DEA Trust	14,878.00
Escrow Trust	6,794.98
Affordable Housing Trust	3,332.50
Recreation Trust	6,335.41
Donation Trust Account	
Unemployment Trust	
Summer Recreation Trust	
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>\$505,753.33</b>
Offcycle - Retro	100.00
Payroll October 17 & 30 - Current	\$371,650.11
Payroll Agency Fund	\$371,650.11
	<b>\$1,249,153.55</b>

**WHEREAS**, above claims have been listed and summarized in the Bills List Report, and the corresponding vouchers have been reviewed and approved by the department head, finance committee, and/or the chief financial officer; and

**WHEREAS**, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that the funds have been properly appropriated for such purposes and are available in the Borough of Northvale, and that the claims specified on the schedule, following examination and approval by the finance committee, be paid and checks issued accordingly; and





**WHEREAS**, claims have already been paid in the following amounts for the purposes specified below during the course of the year:

Northern Valley Regional High School	10/15/25	\$619,971.60
Health Benefits	10/23/35	78,768.65
Health Benefits	10/15/25	82,273.19
County Taxes		
Employee Pension Payment-PERS/PFRS		
Northvale Board OF Education	10/31/25	995,518.00
Northvale Public Library		
Capital – Inter-fund	10/15/25	150,000
DTC- Bond Principal & Inter		
DTC- Bond Interest		
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>\$3,175,684.99</b>

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Northvale that the claims totaling **\$3,175,684.99** be ratified respectively.

Mayor McGuire opened the meeting to the public for questions or comments on Consent Resolutions only. There being no questions or comments, Mayor McGuire closed the meeting to the public.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorrow	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Menafra	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

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**ORDINANCE – 1st Reading**

**Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second for the introduction on first reading of Ordinance #25-14. Mayor McGuire stated the public hearing on this Ordinance will be December 10th. Motion was moved by Councilman Sokoloski, seconded by Councilman Bakalian.**

**ORDINANCE #25-14**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 186 ARTICLE II, TRAFFIC REGULATIONS, OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO AMEND PROHIBITED PARKING ON A CERTAIN PORTION OF CHESTNUT STREET**

**WHEREAS**, parking is currently permitted on the west side of Chestnut Street beginning 220 feet north of Rockland Avenue for a distance of 350 feet, on Sundays and Federal holidays, but only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough wishes to amend the parking regulations to prohibit parking on both sides of Chestnut Street from John Street south to the Borough of Northvale Corporate line; and

**WHEREAS**, the current parking situation on Chestnut Street has shown to be ineffective and creates issues with traffic on Chestnut Street.



**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Northvale, County of Bergen, State of New Jersey, that the following ordinance is hereby added:

**Section 1:** Chapter 186, Article II, Traffic

§ 186-17, Parking prohibited at all times on certain streets

No person shall park a vehicle at any time upon any streets or parts thereof described.

Name of Street	Sides	Location
Chestnut Street	Both	From John Street south to the Borough of Northvale Corporate line. <del>except that parking</del> <del>will be permitted on the west side of Chestnut Street</del> <del>beginning 220 feet north of Rockland</del> <del>Avenue for a distance of 350 feet, on Sundays and Federal holidays</del> <del>but only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1 p.m.</del>

**SECTION 2.** All other parts of Section 186-17 not affected by this amendment shall remain in full force and effect

**SECTION 3.** This Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication as provided by Law.

**Mayor McGuire asked for a roll call vote:**

Councilman Bakalian	Yes	Council President McMorro	Yes
Councilwoman Fernandez	Yes	Councilman Mena	Yes
Councilman Mattessich	Yes	Councilman Sokoloski	Yes

**OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business to discuss at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business to discuss at this time.

**MAYOR & COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Council President McMorro** – Preschool pie sale has come to an end. Thank you to everyone who supported our fundraiser! It was a tremendous success. This past Tuesday, the children sang beautifully at the Veterans Day Memorial. We are so proud of them and look forward to their next performance at the upcoming Tree Lighting in December. The class also created a beautiful banner in honor of our Veterans. It will be displayed at the American Legion for all to enjoy. As a reminder, the clothing donation bin is located outside the Preschool entrance doors. As you clean out your homes, please consider dropping off any clothing donations in the bin. Ambulance Corps responded to a total of 15 calls during the month of October: 7 to Northvale, 5 to Rockleigh Jewish Home, 1 to Closter, 2 to other neighboring boroughs. The Ambulance Corps. participated in the Veterans Day celebration yesterday and will also be attending the Tree Lighting ceremony in December. We are excited to welcome a few new junior members to our team and wish them the best of luck on their journey with us. As always, we are actively seeking doctors, nurses, and EMTs to join our organization. If you are interested, please email us at [nvac226@gmail.com](mailto:nvac226@gmail.com).

Police Department had 814 calls for service for the month of October: 156 motor vehicle stops, 139 selective traffic enforcement details, 54 school safety checks, 36 suspicious incident calls, 48 building and park checks. There were 2 arrests – 34 year old male for DWI and a 66 year old female for shoplifting

October 1<sup>st</sup> was National Coffee With a Cop Day. This year’s event was held at the Northvale Starbucks, who graciously hosted and provided coffee and snacks to all who attended. The event was a great success and the positive engagement with our community members was overwhelming. Thank you to all who attended and especially Starbucks for their generosity.



Halloween, yet windy, was a safe and exciting day for borough families. The Police Department received several requests to close Bradley Avenue for several hours as it is a popular street to gather on. Although not possible for this year, the Police Department and Borough officials will consider a temporary road closure for 2026.

We will be putting out information for our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Battle of the Bulbs soon.

**Councilman Bakalian** – Planning Board held one meeting in October. Building Department issued 22 permits and updated 3 permits in the month of October. Fees collected for October were \$24,173 as compared to last October which were \$23,338. The year-to-date fees collected are \$328,980 which is \$146,979 more than last year.

Boston Market is going to be a Taco Bell. Moe's in the plaza is going to be a Gyro food place. The property on the corner of Walnut and Paris is converting two commercial units into residential and the 31-unit construction on Paris is nearing completion of the foundation phase.

**Councilman Menafr** – Fire Department statistics for the month of October – 22 emergency calls totaling 85.75 man hours which include 8 fire or CO alarms, 1 non-structural fire, 1 hazmat condition, 2 rescues and 7 utilities incidents. There were 9 non-emergency calls totaling 208 man hours which include 1 company drill and 3 training worknights. Honorable mention to the Fire Department for their safety presentation to students at Northvale School. Ed Witkowski did a great job.

Fire Prevention statistics for the month of October – 42 inspections and 13 re-inspections.

Northvale Board of Education – held their regular meeting on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. From the Superintendent's Report – 2025 spring NJSLA testing results presentation showed 3<sup>rd</sup> grade at better than 80%, meeting or exceeding expectations in both ELA and math. Mixed results in all higher grade levels up to 7<sup>th</sup> grade with some levels slipping below the results from previous spring testing. 8<sup>th</sup> grade results were also very good in both ELA and math. Aimsweb fall testing was completed with results to be shared with parents in upcoming weeks. NJSLA field testing will occur in November. In public comment, the Board President made a statement regarding ongoing negotiations with the teachers' association. Next meeting will be held on November 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm in the APR.

Northern Valley Board of Education – the last meeting was held on October 13<sup>th</sup>. From the Superintendent's report – 3<sup>rd</sup> annual AI Literacy Summit will be held on December 8<sup>th</sup>, over 100 school districts will attend. Spring standardized testing results were shared. NVOT SAT average score was 1238. There were 1040 students that participated in the Advanced Placement program with 88% of students scoring a 3 or higher and 450 students receiving the AP scholar designation. The NVOT new turf field work continues and is expected to complete no later than the beginning of Spring 2026. The next regular meeting will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm in the NVOT Media Center.

**Councilman Mattessich** – DPW did the prep work for the Veterans Day ceremony and installed decorations for the event. They installed mums at the Borough Hall, Hogan and Veterans Parks. They started leaf pick up with the vacuum unit for the autumn season. Began preparations for the snow plows and other equipment for the upcoming winter storms. Normal maintenance continues with filling potholes, chipping and collecting brush.

Senior Center – the center was closed for Election Day and Veteran's Day. The monthly breakfast is set for November 18<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. The following day on the 19<sup>th</sup> the seniors will be doing blood pressure checks. On November 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> the center will be closed for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Golden Age Club – met on November 5<sup>th</sup>. The club members will be attending the Christmas Show at Radio City Music Hall in December. The Christmas Holiday Party will be at Sear House in Closter and the Mayor and I will be attending with our wives.

Recreation – I attend the meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Soccer season may be over but playoffs continue and will be coming to an end shortly. I will have updates at the next meeting.

Basketball sign-ups for boys were abundant. As for the girls signups, the numbers were down and they are trying to recruit more players. There is a limited amount of travel basketball teams. Softball and baseball fall season was slow. One girls team played. Indoor soccer is right around the corner and I should have more updates after the next recreation meeting.

**Councilwoman Fernandez** – Library board next meeting will be November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. I was able to attend their family Halloween party. Check out the Library website and calendar for all events.



Beautification – the community garden will be closing on November 15<sup>th</sup> to prepare the space for winter.

Thank you to everyone who came out to support Pumpkins for Pink event last month. We raised almost \$1,500 for breast cancer research for Memorial Sloan Kettering. Thank you to all the borough departments for participating and all their creativity in the pumpkin decorating challenge. Thank you to the DPW for getting the pumpkins there. Thank you to the people who donated to all of our raffles.

**Councilman Sokoloski** – Board of Health had their last meeting of the year. The next meeting is the Reorganization meeting in January. The Rabies Clinic was held in October. We didn't have a great turnout.

Nothing new to report on Northern Valley Greenway but we are moving in a positive direction. Grants pending are slightly down from last month since we had a few rejected. Not a good year for grants.

**Mayor McGuire** – Thank you to everyone who came out and helped to honor our Veterans yesterday during a chilly and snowy Veterans Day ceremony. We had an excellent turnout and great participation from the Preschool and the middle school choir.

Our next event will be Friday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm at Hogan Park for the Holiday Tree Lighting. This year's big addition is a bonfire which will be in the open area in front of the gazebo.

A special thank you to Councilwoman Fernandez for creating and coordinating our 1<sup>st</sup> annual Pumpkins for Pink event that was held on October 25<sup>th</sup>. It was a fun event and gives us something to really build on. The important part is that we raised funds for Memorial Sloan Kettering and awareness for breast cancer.

I visited our local food pantries this past weekend – St. Anthony's and Whole Sum pantry in Norwood on Summit St. They have been very grateful for the outpouring of support they've received over the last couple of weeks with people who have donated. There are approximately 200 families in our 4 local towns that are on federal SNAP programs. As the holidays approach, please pick up a few extra items and drop off.

As a reminder we are beginning to put plans together for 2026 and America's 250<sup>th</sup> celebration. This includes decorations and events. Councilwoman Fernandez and Councilman Bakalian are heading up a committee to map this out for us.

An update on our plan to move away from the state health plan. We are awaiting final approval from the unions and should have something shortly.

Next week is the League in Atlantic City and I am attending along with Councilman Sokoloski and some employees.

Congratulations to Councilman Mattessich and Councilman Menafra on their reelection.

## **BOROUGH ATTORNEY REPORT**

**Mr. Ralph** – the affordable housing litigation is still ongoing.

## **BOROUGH ENGINEER REPORT**

**Mr. Loverich** – MS4 mapping fieldwork is completed and will be submitted next week to DEP. The curbing has not been completed by the contractor. Issued them a letter stating it needs to be completed before Thanksgiving.

## **OPEN MEETING TO THE PUBLIC**

**Mr. Chris Bombino, 123 Rockland Avenue** – thank all of you for listening the last 13 months. It got contentious at times and discussions were long. I will put my camera down now. I will let you know how things are working out. There will be no more Sunday night emails. I will continue to come to meetings. You are a governing body that does listen.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor McGuire asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting at 7:38 PM. Motion was moved by Council President McMorrow, seconded by Councilman Menafra. All were in favor to adjourn.



*Joseph E. McGuire*  
Mayor

**ATTEST:**

*Frances M. Weston*

Frances M. Weston  
Municipal Clerk

Approved:    December 10, 2025

